

## **BARC North Western Centre report for the BARC Magazine 2015 Spring edition**

As I write this the NW Centre is well on the way to starting the new season. Regulations have been approved, dates fixed, documents sent out and registrations are flowing in. Most of the usual winter training by marshals and officials is complete and everyone is bored with winter and ready now for the off.

The main event of the New Year which is actually about the previous season was our Real Night Out awards presentation and dinner dance held on the last weekend of January. We were pleased to have Ian Watson as our special guest and his thoughts about the club and the NW Centre were very much appreciated.

Another highlight of the event was the presentation of an armful of trophies to our 2014



overall champion Steven Hibbert whose name has probably appeared in every NW Centre report of last year, such was his command of the points. Steven is shown front right in the photograph of all the award winners.

Simon Allaway of Esprit V8 rebuilding fame had acquired a very tasty collection of prizes for the raffle which went down very well followed by much dancing, drinking and conversation!

We were also very pleased and grateful to announce that Ric Wood, owner of CNC Heads has agreed to sponsor the sports saloon championship for another season which makes him the longest standing sponsor at eight years. His involvement with the championship has helped us to up our game and make it as successful as it is. Thanks for that Ric.

The 2015 season starts at the end of March at Oulton Park and will be keenly anticipated by most people but the paddock will not seem the same as the winter saw the loss of one of our most popular and respected drivers. It is with great sadness that we have to report that Cam Forbes passed away on the 20th January. Cam had

recovered from illness to rejoin the Championship in 2014, his return to racing greatly pleasing all who knew him. He had a great season on track finishing 2nd in Class B.



Cam started his racing career as a grass track racer moving onto track days with a motor bike. He started his car racing career in the BARC(NW) Sports/Saloon Championship back in 2008 hardly missing a round except in 2013 when he took a year off for health reasons. He and his family built his immaculate Westfield racer themselves under the Acme Motorsport racing banner. He competed in 67 championship rounds with 2011 being his most successful season when he

finished 2nd overall and took the Class B with 8 class wins in the season. It was no surprise that at the annual presentation Dinner Dance for that season he was awarded the BARC(NW) Sports/Saloon Spirit of the Championship award for his friendly, loyal and helpful contributions to the championship. He was always one of the first people to greet a new driver in the paddock with the offer of a coffee, hot dog and help. A lovely man a very quick racer and a popular character in the paddock, he will be greatly missed by all but he would be the first to want this report to finish on a cheerful note so let us all be inspired by him and have a great new season. The photograph above shows Cam preparing for a race.

Thanks to Rachel Bourne for the photographs.

Peter Gorrie *NW Centre Secretary*